

# Kentucky Victim Assistance e-Newsletter

Can you come up with a better e-newsletter name? Contest information on page 2!

Kentucky Justice and Public Safety Cabinet Grants Management Branch

July/August 2013 e-Newsletter

Volume I, Issue I

## First Annual Kentucky Victim's Assistance Academy Testimonial from Jill Robertson

I come from a culture when it is time to learn to swim, parents take their young to the end of a pier and drop them in. It's a method I had always appreciated and from my experiences had developed an "I'll Figure it Out" attitude. This attitude has helped me from time to time, whether it be rebuilding a car, writing a grant or making the world's best sour dough. I tend to jump in, fumble around with a series of trial and errors until I come out successful. As I've gotten older, I realize that that method is a gratuitous waste of time; yeah, throwing your child off the deep end can build a sense of independence but it may also do some irreparable harm. I write this because it parallels where I am professionally. With time I would have pieced together a contact for EPO's, VINE, the qualifications for Crime Victims Benefits. I would have eventually "Figured it out", but at what cost to the individuals I am supposed to be serving? Luckily, I had the opportunity to attend the KY Victim Assistance Academy prior to diving in. The experience helped me develop a better understanding of the legal system in relation to victims of crime, and has allowed me to network with several veteran victim advocates, who have graciously offered to aid when challenges occur. The inaugural Academy topics were well thought out, the presenters knowledgeable, the activities engaging and most importantly the event extremely beneficial to my current needs as a victim service provider. My kudos to all those who made this event so successful. *Jill Robertson, Associate Director- The Rising Center*



Inaugural Kentucky Victim's Assistance Academy Class

## Appreciation, Patricia Desrosiers, Ph. D., LCSW



May 20-24th, 2013 heralded the first Kentucky Victim Assistance Academy (KVAA). This event was a success thanks to the efforts of dozens of individuals and agencies that deserve recognition. Thanks go first and foremost to the Steering Committee members that have worked diligently to plan and hold the first KVAA. The partner agencies that allowed their employees to participate in this process also deserve recognition. This group has met once or twice a month for about 18 months in order to develop an Academy of which Kentucky can be proud! Both volunteer and paid instructors deserve a heartfelt thank you. They delivered a wonderful training product to the participants. It is important to note that some instructors also served on the steering committee, so please thank those members for their double duty. Thanks to the 53 participants that made this inaugural Kentucky Victim Assistance Academy a success. Their participation in the Academy and their evaluation of the curriculum and the training methods will assist in improving the Academy for 2014 and beyond!

### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Highlights from the Kentucky Victim's Assistance Academy
  - What is in store for next years Academy?
  - Jealous of those fabulous KVAA shirts? You can still order yours!
  - Don't like the bland e-Newsletter name? You could name our e-Newsletter AND win a KVAA shirt!
- This issue's highlight resource: [The Kentucky Crime Victim Bill of Rights Handbook](#)

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## Amy Marquardt's KVAA Testimonial

I attended the inaugural Kentucky Victim's Assistance Academy (KVAA) as a domestic violence victim advocate new to my position. The experience was eye opening learning the services and resources that are available nationally, in the state of Kentucky, and in my local community. This comprehensive, 40 hour, week-long training really helped to broaden my perspective on victimization and how I can provide superior services to my clients. Attending KVAA 2013 gave me the opportunity to learn more innovative and effective ways to serve my clients. I particularly enjoyed the sessions on Intimate Partner Sexual Abuse, Ethics, Trauma Informed Care, Impact of Crime, Crisis Management and Victimology, and Vicarious Trauma and Provider Self-Care.

My favorite aspects of KVAA 2013 were being able to serve as a member of the jury during the mock trial, networking with victim advocates from around the state and the US, and enjoying the grounds and hospitality of a KY State Park. I am in my first year of providing services to clients of Chrysalis House, a substance abuse treatment facility for women and children; after attending KVAA I feel more confident in my abilities to advocate for and counsel my clients who are dealing with the effects of domestic violence. I can't wait until next year's KVAA!!—Amy L. Marquardt, MRC, LPCA, Lexington, KY.



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

July 25-26 Adanta Conference in Somerset

If you have any special events, trainings, workshops, webinars, or dates that you would like added, please contact Beth Workman at [elizabethk.workman@ky.gov](mailto:elizabethk.workman@ky.gov)

## HOW TO CONTACT US!

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**CHECK US OUT ON  
THE WEB!**

## Name Our e-Newsletter Contest

The Kentucky Victim's Assistance e-Newsletter is designed with careful attention to the needs of Victim's of Crime Act and Violence Against Women Act subgrantees. We see this as an opportunity to share resource information, successful subgrantee milestones, and upcoming events, workshops, and trainings. The e-Newsletter is not limited to subgrantees only, anyone can join the mailing list.

The Kentucky Victim's Assistance e-Newsletter is a product of the Kentucky Justice and Public Safety Cabinet Grant Management Branch.

Now that you know a little about us, please help us Name our e-Newsletter!

Anyone can participate. The rules of the contest are as follows: 1) Email Beth with your e-Newsletter Name Submission; 2) Names must be submitted by August 16th; 3) Be creative and have fun!

Best of all, the winners (picked through an anonymous office vote) will receive a KVAA shirt!

If you have questions regarding the contest, please email Beth at [elizabethk.workman@ky.gov](mailto:elizabethk.workman@ky.gov)

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our e-newsletter with  
community friends.**



This e-Newsletter brought to you by:  
Kentucky Justice and Public Safety Cabinet  
and Western Kentucky University; special  
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Marquardt

